

NANCY VANDERMEER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 70TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

March 25, 2015

Representative John Nygren Co-Chair, Joint Finance Committee 309 East, State Capital

Dear Co-Chair Nygren,

Since Governor Walker's budget address in February, I have heard many personal stories and concerns from my constituents about the potential changes to aging and long term care programs, specifically SeniorCare. As you know, SeniorCare is an essential prescription drug program for Wisconsin's elderly. It helps to ensure they are able to afford the proper doses of the vital medications needed to maintain their health, even when they are not covered by Medicare.

In Wisconsin, over 80,000 seniors now rely on SeniorCare as their sole provider of their prescription medication. The great majority of these seniors are on fixed incomes and this program provides them with security from rising prescription drug costs. SeniorCare is the alternative that fits in their limited budgets when compared to similar prescription drug programs like Medicare Part D. I believe it's crucial we preserve this essential program so seniors can continue to afford their prescription medications.

In closing, I encourage you and your fellow colleagues on the Joint Finance Committee to consider preserving SeniorCare. Wisconsin has a strong record of caring for our elderly and I hope we will continue to be committed to programs like SeniorCare.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

With appreciation,

Nancy VanderMeer State Representative 70th Assembly District